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1. *Staphylococcus aureus* (Staph. aureus) is a common cause of skin infections, such as abscesses and boils. It is also a leading cause of hospital-acquired infections, including pneumonia and bloodstream infections.

Applicant: Jerry Wynn Brimer )  
et al. )  
Serial No.: Unknown ) Group No.: 1762  
Filed: Herewith ) Examiner: F. Parker  
For: ACID IMPERVIOUS COATED )  
METAL SUBSTRATE SURFACE )  
AND METHOD OF PRODUCTION )  
\_\_\_\_\_ )

Assistant Commissioner of Patents  
Washington, D. C. 20231

Applicants respectfully request entry of the following Preliminary Amendment prior to the examination of the above-identified divisional patent application.

Please cancel Claims 1-10.

By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants have canceled Claims 1-10 from the present application due to the same having been prosecuted in relation to parent application Serial No. 09/248,172 filed February 9, 1999. Accordingly, in the present divisional patent application, Applicants are prosecuting Claims 11-15 which were originally presented in the parent application and withdrawn